

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for supporting security-trade financing for a company seeking capital,
2 comprising:
3 a) maintaining an inventory data base including data identifying products;
4 b) determining a cash/trade-credit blend for the purpose of providing financing to the
5 company, wherein the cash/trade-credit blend includes a cash portion and a trade-credit portion;
6 c) receiving securities from the company in exchange for the trade-credit portion of
7 the cash/trade-credit blend; and
8 d) receiving at least a portion of the cash/trade-credit blend from the company in
9 exchange for a proportional quantity of the products in inventory that are desired by the
10 company.
- 1 2. A method as recited in Claim 1, further including the steps of:
2 a) receiving deficient assets from a deficient asset company;
3 b) transmitting trade credits to the deficient asset company to pay, at least in part, for
4 the deficient assets; and
5 c) storing data identifying the deficient assets in the inventory data base.
- 1 3. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the products identified in the inventory data base
2 are categorized.
- 1 4. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the products are selected from the group
2 consisting of goods and services.
- 1 5. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the cash/trade-credit blend is represented by a
2 cash-credit ratio, and wherein the cash-credit ratio is between 1/99 and 99/1, inclusive.

6. A method for supporting security-trade financing for a company seeking capital, comprising:

a) storing data identifying inventory allocations and inventory components desired by the company;

b) calculating a total plan cost basis based on the inventory allocations and cost bases of the inventory components;

c) calculating a cash-credit ratio based on the total plan cost basis and a desired plan cost basis;

d) calculating one or more cash/trade-credit blends based on the desired plan cost basis, the cash-credit ratio, and one or more investment values; and

e) outputting the one or more cash/trade-credit blends.

7. A method as recited in Claim 6, wherein the desired plan cost basis is based on valuations of the company.

8. A method as recited in Claim 6, wherein the valuations include an agreed-to valuation and a desired valuation.

9. A method as recited in Claim 6, wherein the inventory components are selected from the group consisting of one or more categories of inventory products and one or more particular inventory products.

10. A method as recited in Claim 9, further comprising the step of storing data identifying the one or more categories of inventory products and data identifying the one or more particular inventory products in an inventory data base.

11. A method as recited in Claim 10, further comprising the step of storing data identifying an actual cost basis of each of the one or more particular inventory products.

12. A method as recited in Claim 10, further comprising the step of storing data identifying an estimated cost basis of each of the one or more categories of inventory products.

13. A method as recited in Claim 6, wherein the cost bases of the inventory components are selected from the group consisting of an actual cost bases and an estimated cost bases.

14. A method as recited in Claim 6, wherein the total plan cost basis is selected from the group consisting of a total actual plan cost basis and a total estimated plan cost basis.

15. A method as recited in Claim 6, wherein the cash-credit ratio is between 1/99 and 99/1, inclusive.

16. A method as recited in Claim 6, further including the step of storing a range of investment values and an increment value for use in calculating the one or more cash/trade-credit blends.

17. A method as recited in Claim 6, wherein the step of calculating a total plan cost basis based on the inventory allocations and the cost bases of the inventory components includes the step of discounting each inventory component by a rate-card discount.

18. A data processing system for supporting security-trade financing for a company seeking capital, comprising:

- a) computer processor means for processing data;
- b) storage means for storing data on a storage device;
- c) first means for storing data identifying inventory allocations and inventory components desired by the company in the storage device;
- d) second means for calculating a total plan cost basis based on the inventory allocations and cost bases of the inventory components;
- e) third means for calculating a cash-credit ratio based on the total plan cost basis and a desired plan cost basis;
- f) fourth means for calculating one or more cash/trade-credit blends based on the desired plan cost basis, the cash-credit ratio, and one or more investment values; and
- g) fifth means for outputting the one or more cash/trade-credit blends.

19. A data processing system as recited in Claim 18, wherein the desired plan cost basis is based on valuations of the company.

20. A data processing system as recited in Claim 19, wherein the valuations include an agreed-to valuation and a desired valuation.

21. A data processing system as recited in Claim 18, wherein the inventory components are selected from the group consisting of one or more categories of inventory products and one or more particular inventory products.

22. A data processing system as recited in Claim 21, further comprising a sixth means for storing data identifying the one or more categories of inventory products and data identifying the one or more particular inventory products in an inventory data base.

23. A data processing system as recited in Claim 22, further comprising a seventh means for storing data identifying an actual cost basis of each of the one or more particular inventory products.

24. A data processing system as recited in Claim 22, further comprising an eighth means for storing data identifying an estimated cost basis of each of the one or more categories of inventory products.

25. A data processing system as recited in Claim 18, wherein the cost bases of the inventory components are selected from the group consisting of an actual cost bases and an estimated cost bases.

26. A data processing system as recited in Claim 18, wherein the total plan cost basis is selected from the group consisting of a total actual plan cost basis and a total estimated plan cost basis.

27. A data processing system as recited in Claim 18, wherein the cash-credit ratio is between 1/99 and 99/1, inclusive.

28. A data processing system as recited in Claim 18, further including a ninth means for storing a range of investment values and an increment value for use in calculating the one or more cash/trade-credit blends.

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29. A data processing system as recited in Claim 18, wherein the second means for calculating a total plan cost basis based on the inventory allocations and the cost bases of the inventory components includes a tenth means for discounting each inventory component by a rate-card discount

30. A data processing system for supporting security-trade financing for a company seeking capital, comprising:

a storage device for storing data identifying inventory components and corresponding cost bases;

a processor in communication with the storage device, wherein the processor is operative to

a) store data in the storage device identifying inventory allocations and certain inventory components desired by the company, a desired plan cost basis, and one or more investment values;

b) calculate a total plan cost basis based on the inventory allocations and the cost bases of the certain inventory components;

c) calculate a cash-credit ratio based on the total plan cost basis and the desired plan cost basis;

d) calculate one or more cash/trade-credit blends based on the desired plan cost basis, the cash-credit ratio, and the one or more investment values; and

e) output the one or more cash/trade-credit blends.

31. A data processing system as recited in Claim 30, wherein the desired plan cost basis is based on valuations of the company.

32. A data processing system as recited in Claim 31, wherein the valuations of the company include an agreed-to valuation and a desired valuation.

33. A data processing system as recited in Claim 30, wherein the inventory components are selected from the group consisting of one or more categories of inventory products and one or more particular inventory products.

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